



Friends and neighbors,

**The Christmas Tree Lighting Event Was Spectacular and Fun For All Ages – First, I again want to thank the Borland family for donating the tree to the town. It was beautifully lit and is now central to our annual tree lighting event and beautiful holiday-scape. Great opportunity for a family picture!**

**Thanks to all of our volunteers, employees, scouts, performers, Music with Marly, and residents for the wonderful tree lighting celebration enjoyed on Tuesday evening 12/3/24. It was a great community event with hot cocoa, music, photos with Santa, candy canes, tons of kids and loads of fun. *Thanks to our special honoree Preston Shyong for lighting the tree. Preston, you were amazing! And, my personal thanks to Santa, the Demarest Fire Department, Demarest Police Department, Demarest Ambulance Corps, Demarest Recreation Commission and our DPW.***

#### **December 9<sup>th</sup> Recognition Awards**

Please join us at the Mayor and Council meeting on **December 9, 2024** (starting at 7:30 pm) to recognize the significant contributions made in 2024 by **members of the Demarest Volunteer Fire Department, the Demarest Recreation Commission and the Demarest Athletic Association. Thank you all!**

#### **Kwanzaa 2024**

Wishing a **Happy Kwanzaa** to our friends and families celebrating Kwanzaa. Celebrated December 26 – January 1.

#### **Menorah Celebration**

Please remember to mark your calendar for our **Menorah Lighting celebration scheduled for Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM at the Gazebo.** Hanukkah this year is celebrated December 25 – January 2 and candles will be lit each night.

#### **The Holidays are Here!!**

I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving holiday. With Thanksgiving in the rear view mirror, **Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and New Year's Eve** are right around the corner! ***Enjoy the holiday season with friends, family and neighbors!***

#### **National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day –**

Each year on **December 7**, we take time to honor and remember the more than **2400 service members and civilians who were killed during the attack on Pearl Harbor** on December 7, 1941. As a symbol of respect and remembrance, I have asked that the American flag be flown at half-staff for the day.

**Important Reminder – Recycling Holiday Schedule Changes –  
No Wednesday recycling on:**

· Christmas Day 12/25/24; **Rescheduled** for Friday **12/27/24**  
· New Year's Day 1/1/25; **Rescheduled** for Friday **1/3/25**  
Please mark your calendars.

**Water Supply Drought Update as of November 27, 2024:**

Despite the recent rain and snowfall statewide, the accumulations were not enough to change current water supply conditions and **New Jersey remains in a drought warning**. **So, while fire restrictions have been lifted statewide, the public is strongly urged to continue voluntary water conservation practices.**

**Demarest Library:**

The Demarest Library is having a virtual Recipe Swap. Please upload your favorite or meaningful holiday recipe [here](#) to share with the community!

The Bergen County Animal Shelter is returning to the library for a Pet Meet & Greet on Thursday, December 12 from 5 - 7 pm. Prospective pet owners are invited to stop by and get more information. Please note there will be no adoptions at this event.

Have a great weekend,

Mayor Brian Bernstein

*My Friday emails to the residents are now reaching **1,081 people!** My goal is for every Demarest resident to be up to date on what is going on around town, please help with that goal by forwarding this email to your friends so they can visit [demarestnj.gov](http://demarestnj.gov) and sign up for my weekly emails! The link can be found about halfway down the homepage.*

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